



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Raised Bill No. 840

LCO No. 2446

* _____SB00840HS_APP030211_____*

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR
PARTICIPANTS IN THE JOBS FIRST PROGRAM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 17b-112 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2011*):

4 (c) A family who is subject to time-limited benefits may petition the
5 Commissioner of Social Services for six-month extensions of such
6 benefits. The commissioner shall grant not more than two extensions to
7 such family who has made a good faith effort to comply with the
8 requirements of the program and despite such effort has a total family
9 income at a level below the payment standard, or has encountered
10 circumstances preventing employment including, but not limited to:
11 (1) Domestic violence or physical harm to such family's children; or (2)
12 other circumstances beyond such family's control. The commissioner
13 shall disregard ninety dollars of earned income in determining
14 applicable family income. The commissioner may grant a subsequent
15 six-month extension if each adult in the family meets one or more of
16 the following criteria: (A) The adult is precluded from engaging in

17 employment activities due to domestic violence or another reason
 18 beyond the adult's control; (B) the adult has two or more substantiated
 19 barriers to employment including, but not limited to, the lack of
 20 available child care, substance abuse or addiction, severe mental or
 21 physical health problems, one or more severe learning disabilities,
 22 domestic violence or a child who has a serious physical or behavioral
 23 health problem; (C) the adult is working thirty-five or more hours per
 24 week, is earning at least the minimum wage and continues to earn less
 25 than the family's temporary family assistance payment standard; [or]
 26 (D) the adult is employed and works less than thirty-five hours per
 27 week due to (i) a documented medical impairment that limits the
 28 adult's hours of employment, provided the adult works the maximum
 29 number of hours that the medical condition permits, or (ii) the need to
 30 care for a disabled member of the adult's household, provided the
 31 adult works the maximum number of hours the adult's caregiving
 32 responsibilities permit; or (E) the adult is actively engaged in adult
 33 basic education, vocational education, another educational activity,
 34 skills training or subsidized employment included in an employment
 35 plan approved in connection with the Jobs First program. Families
 36 receiving temporary family assistance shall be notified by the
 37 department of the right to petition for such extensions.
 38 Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the commissioner shall
 39 not provide benefits under the state's temporary family assistance
 40 program to a family that is subject to the twenty-one month benefit
 41 limit and has received benefits beginning on or after October 1, 1996, if
 42 such benefits result in that family's receiving more than sixty months
 43 of time-limited benefits unless that family experiences domestic
 44 violence, as defined in Section 402(a)(7)(B), P.L. 104-193. For the
 45 purpose of calculating said sixty-month limit: (I) A month shall count
 46 toward the limit if the family receives assistance for any day of the
 47 month, and (II) a month in which a family receives temporary
 48 assistance for needy families benefits that are issued from a jurisdiction
 49 other than Connecticut shall count toward the limit.

50 Sec. 2. Section 4-165c of the general statutes is repealed and the

51 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

52 No cause of action or liability shall arise against the state, any of its
53 agencies or subdivisions, or any state official, employee or agent, for
54 failure to comply with the provisions of section 4-67y, 10-215h, 17b-4a,
55 17b-112i, [17b-112j,] 17b-749l, 17b-790b, 17b-800a or 19a-59g.

56 Sec. 3. Section 17b-112j of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
57 *July 1, 2011*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	17b-112(c)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	4-165c
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	Repealer section

HS

Joint Favorable C/R

APP